

Abstract

Disclosed is a dry-process nonwoven pulp fabric composed of united layer structures, which contains heat-bondable synthetic fibers and comprises surface layer portions on both sides in which the synthetic fibers are heat bonded to one another and which has a basis weight of more than 5 g/m<sup>2</sup> to 12 g/m<sup>2</sup>, and an internal layer portion in which heat-bondable synthetic fibers and pulp fibers are mixed at a ratio of 20/80 to 60/40% by weight and the synthetic fibers and/or the synthetic fibers and pulp fibers are heat bonded to one another and which has a basis weight of 8 to 240 g/m<sup>2</sup>, wherein the front and back surface layers and the internal layer portion are united as a whole by heat bonding of the synthetic fibers to one another, the ratio of a strength in a lengthwise direction to that in a crosswise direction is from 0.8 to 1.2 in both dry and wet states, the ratio of a strength in a dry state to that in a wet state is from 0.6 to 1.1, the water absorption is from 8 to 20 g/g, and the total basis weight is from 20 to 250 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The resulting dry-process nonwoven pulp fabric is free from the shedding of fibers, sufficient in water absorption properties and high in wet strength, and therefore suitable for wipers, kitchen sheets and the like used in a wet state.